

# SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Spaceport Services Directorate

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## "I was just telling my wife that I didn't like the room color"

- A husband's comment spoken just prior to their house being destroyed by a Tennessee tornado

KSC Needs your Help!

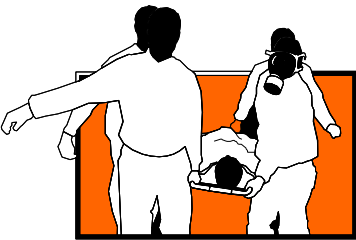
Locking mechanism usually located here (top to bottom)



On January 17 2002, a standard cubicle bookshelf detached from one end dropping its contents (books) onto an employee's desk. Fortunately, the employee was not injured and there was no damage to the bookshelf or to the contents on the employee's desk. The cause of the incident appears to be that the shelf lock on one end was not fully engaged. These bookshelves need to be fully engaged into the wall divider to properly hold its load. While each design is different, most cubicle bookshelves are attached to the cubicle wall by a series of metal tongues. Because of the large number of these cubicle bookshelves used at KSC and CCAFS, employees and supervisors are requested to perform inspections of their cubicle bookshelves to ensure that:

- they are properly secured to the cubicle wall dividers
- they are not unreasonably overloaded (more on weight limits in future articles)

For additional information on this subject, please contact the NASA Industrial Safety Office at 867-7554.



Workplace injuries can impact an employee's work and home schedule, cause discomfort or pain and, possibly, a lost time event for the employee and employer. Most of the workplace injuries occur in office settings. While some may believe it could never happen to them, read below for close calls or actual workplace injuries that have occurred since January 1<sup>st</sup> on KSC and CCAFS. They are provided here for your awareness.

- Employee almost fell walking down the stairs from the second floor because the edge of the newly replaced treads "gave way" (rolled).
- Employee tripped over door jam and fell to floor. Employee injured knee and was transported to hospital for treatment. Door was not supposed to be open for use.
- While removing wooden crates from a vehicle, individual received a splinter from the crate.
- Employee was sitting in a chair with casters. While leaning forward to remove a handkerchief from his back pocket, the chair rolled back causing the employee to fall forward off the chair.
- While lifting air pack, employee strained back



Do you have questions, comments, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Alan at 867-7554, fax number 867-1120, mail code TA-C1 or e-mail him at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web at <http://sotl.ksc.nasa.gov>.